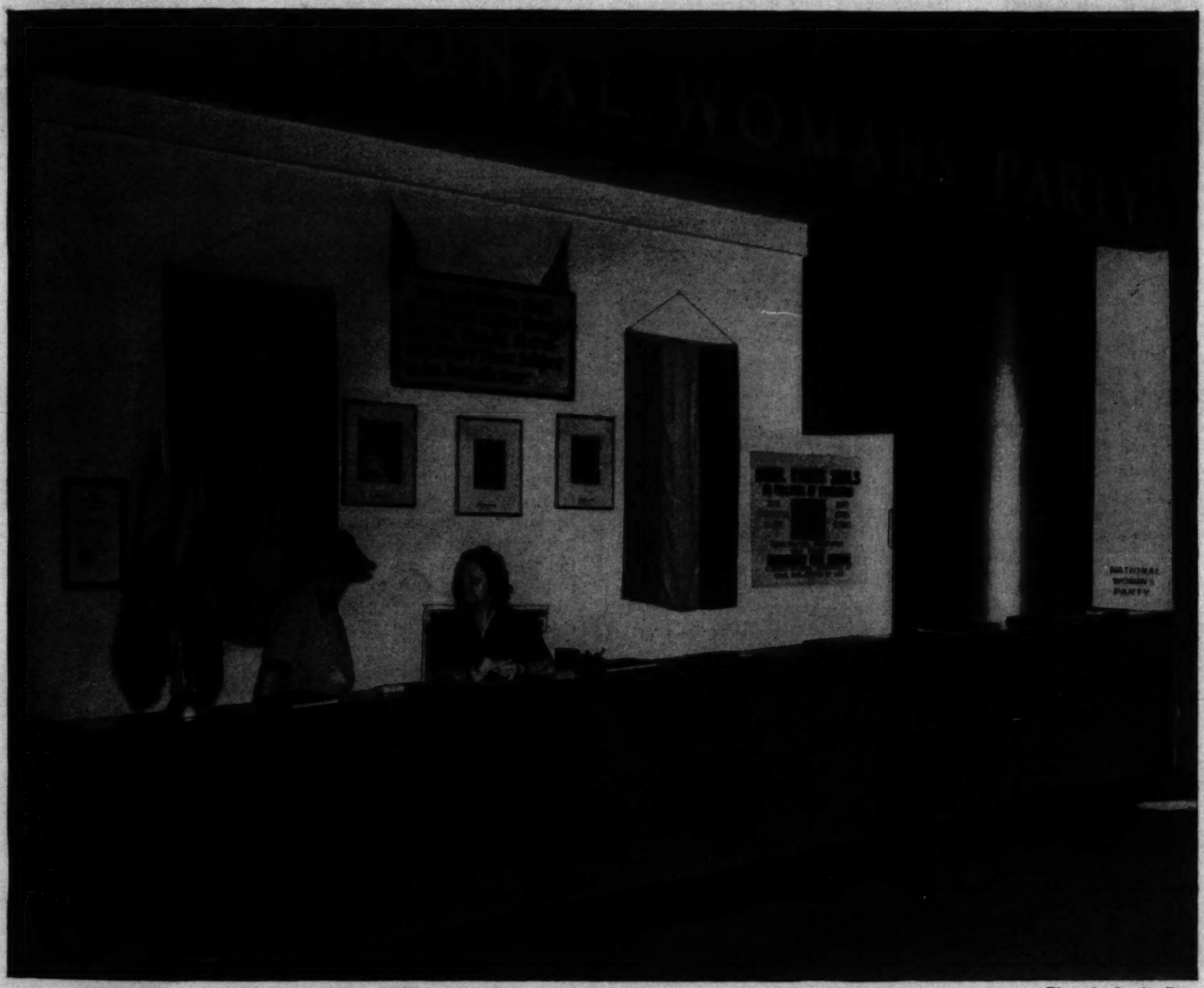
D Period, Dw.

# EQUAL RIGHTS

**"MEN AND WOMEN SHALL HAVE EQUAL RIGHTS THROUGHOUT THE UNITED STATES AND EVERY PLACE SUBJECT TO ITS JURISDICTION"**

*Amendment to the United States Constitution now before Congress*



—Photo by Louise Pote.

**EQUAL RIGHTS AT THE NEW YORK WORLD'S FAIR**

**Martha Souder and Mildred Palmer at the National Woman's Party Booth in the Home Furnishings Building.**

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## NATIONAL WOMAN'S PARTY

**Washington, D. C.**

Vol. 25, No. 14 October, 1939 Price Five Cents

# Equal Rights

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of the
NATIONAL WOMAN'S PARTY
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HELEN HUNT WEST . . . . . Editor

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## NATIONAL WOMAN'S PARTY

### OBJECT

To secure for women complete equality with men under the law and in all human relationships—in particular to secure the adoption of the Equal Rights Amendment to the Constitution, and the adherence of the United States to the Equal Rights Treaty. The Woman's Party also supports the proposed Equality Amendments to the Covenant of the League of Nations.

### THE PROPOSED EQUAL RIGHTS AMENDMENT

"Art. 1—Men and women shall have Equal Rights throughout the United States and every place subject to its jurisdiction.

"Art. 2.—Congress shall have power to enforce this article by appropriate legislation."

**Introduced**

Senate—By Senator John G. Townsend, (Del.), and Senator Edward R. Burke, (Neb.), Jan. 4, 1939, (Senate Joint Resolution No. 7).

House—By Representative Louis Ludlow, (Ind.), Jan. 3, 1939, (House Joint Resolution No. 2).
By Representative U. S. Guyer, (Kans.), Jan. 3, 1939, (House Joint Resolution No. 27).
By Representative Ambrose J. Kennedy, (Md.), Jan. 3, 1939, (House Joint Resolution No. 25).

**Present Status**

Senate—Before Judiciary Sub-Committee.

House—Before Judiciary Committee.

Favorable action by Sub-Committee April 26, 1939.

### THE EQUAL RIGHTS TREATY

"Art. 1—The contracting States agree that upon the ratification of this Treaty men and women shall have Equal Rights throughout the territory subject to their respective jurisdictions."

**Signed**

By Cuba, Ecuador, Paraguay, and Uruguay, at Montevideo, December, 1933.

### PROPOSED EQUALITY AMENDMENTS TO COVENANT OF LEAGUE OF NATIONS

"The members of the League undertake that in their respective countries the right of vote shall not be denied or abridged on the ground of sex."

The members of the League undertake that in their respective countries there shall be no distinction based on sex in their law and practice regarding nationality."

"The members of the League undertake that in their respective countries men and women shall have equal rights in all other fields."

"The members of the League undertake that there shall be both men and women, with full voting powers, in all delegations to the Council and Assembly of the League and to all Conferences under the auspices of the League."

**Present Status**

Before the League of Nations Committee on Status of Women.

# Absurd Subterfuge

LAST APRIL the Lyndhurst (N. J.) school authorities adopted a resolution providing an increase of $25 a year for teachers in the elementary grades receiving between $1,200 and $1,500. The increase was received by all unmarried teachers in this classification, but not by Mrs. Sylvia Liva.

Mrs. Liva, failing to receive the increase, took her case before the school board. Being unable to secure relief from the Board, she appealed to the State Board of Education.

The petitioner contended that the action of the Board constituted a discrimination and therefore was unconstitutional.

State Commissioner of Education Charles H. Elliott stated that the Board had admitted at a hearing before the State Board of Education that Mrs. Liva had not received the increase because she was married.

"There is no statute prohibiting discrimination in the fixing of salaries as between married and unmarried *female* teachers," said the Commissioner. "In the absence of such a statutory provision the State Board of Education in the Morganweck case and the Supreme Court in the Downs case indicated that 'discretion' resides in the Board."

The ruling pointed out, however, that a discrimination in salaries based on sex would be illegal. "Rights," it said, "could accrue to the petitioner only on condition there had been discrimination based on sex."

So the New Jersey State Commissioner is of the opinion that the discrimination in the case of Mrs. Liva was not based on sex! It would be interesting to know if a man teaching in the New Jersey Schools under the same conditions would be discriminated against because of marriage. It is safe to say that he would not and therefore if the discrimination is made against a woman because of marriage and is not made against a man on account of marriage, the Commissioner of Education of New Jersey to the contrary notwithstanding, the discrimination *is* based on sex.

The fact that the services she sold to the School Board were equal to those sold to the Board by the other teachers in the classification should have entitled her to the same remuneration. She was short-changed because of her sex, and, according to New Jersey law, that is illegal. The mission of school boards is to provide education, not employment.

If services for a particular job have a fixed value, then payment should be based solely upon performance of the job and not upon sex. When either law or regulations lower the wage because the worker marries, the worker is deprived of what she has actually earned, because the service performed is fixed, and she must measure up to the standard demanded.

There probably is no case on record of discrimination against a man teacher because of marriage. It therefore is mere subterfuge to deny to a woman because of marriage an increase in salary given all other teachers, then attempt to say that this is not a sex discrimination.

The New Jersey decision states that discrimination in salaries on the basis of sex is illegal. Then it is illegal to deprive Mrs. Liva of the increase authorized by the Board. Had she been a man teacher, under the same ruling she would have received the raise. The ruling is an absurd subterfuge and unworthy of the school authorities, who should reconsider their action for the sake of a clear record, and in the interest of justice to women, who constitute one-half the citizens of the splendid state of New Jersey.

# Booth At Fair Spreads Cause Of Equal Rights

By Mildred Palmer
Executive Secretary New York City Branch, N. W. P.

"WHAT are the discriminations against women in my state?" and "How does my Congressman stand on this?" are the questions most frequently asked by men and women visitors to the National Woman's Party Booth at the New York World's Fair. Thousands are signing the petitions being circulated calling on the President of the United States and Congress to submit to the states a proposed amendment to the federal Constitution reading: "Men and women shall have equal rights throughout the United States and every place subject to its jurisdiction."

An ever increasing interest in the Amendment is evident among visitors from every section of the nation who stop to discuss the question, and who recognize the great need for the measure as a mark of justice in a country which boasts of its democracy and has not yet extended it in full measure to its woman citizens. "I shall certainly bring this before my club when I return home," innumerable women have declared. Thus the Fair Booth continues successfully its educational mission, seeking for women of the United States the right of women as citizens in the American democracy to equal application of the law. Woman's Party National Headquarters in Washington is busy supplying information to those who, returning home from the Fair, write for material for use in club and radio speeches, request speakers on the Amendment and ask how they may help with the campaign for its passage.

Dora Ogle, who served at the Booth with Martha Souder during July and August, has returned to Alabama. Beginning September 1 a new system of manning the Booth was inaugurated by Miss Souder. Elizabeth Rutherford Brown of New York, is Chairman of the Volunteers' Committee and is assisted by Mildred Palmer, Executive Secretary of the New York City Committee. New York members are serving daily. The Industrial Council is in charge Saturdays and Sunday is National Officers' Day. Mrs. Amy C. Ransome, acting national chairman, stopped at the Fair en route from Geneva, Switzerland, where she attended the opening of the headquarters of the World's Woman's Party.

Florence Bayard Hilles, past national chairman and a member of the National Council, visited the Booth on Delaware Day when she was a member of the Delaware Governor's party.

Nina E. Allender, Ethel Adamson and Jane Norman Smith were other national officers visiting the booth. Mrs. Ellis Schnabel, of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania State Chairman, is the Officers' representative for September 30 and October 1.

On September 23, Marie Moore Forrest, Chairman of the District Branch and Chairman of Processions and Pageants for the World Woman's Party, arriving from Geneva the night before, visited the booth. Mrs. Forrest spoke over the radio on this occasion and participated in a television demonstration, speaking on the Equal Rights Amendment and the opening of the Geneva Headquarters of the World Party.

The Government Workers Council was represented at the booth by Abby Owen, Grace Brewer and Florence Heath.

Among those who have assisted or who will serve during the remaining month of the Fair are Cricket Breland, Ella M. Sherwin, Mollie Maloney, Mrs. Joseph Dixon, Daisy Laidlaw, Mrs. Grenville Braman, Katherine B. Withrow, Mrs. Robert Nelson Errington, Mrs. J. B. Vanderver, Ann Punnett, Leslie Black and Lois Pierce Hughes. The College groups were represented by Isabelle Bruyere (University of Michigan), and Jean Palmer (Vassar).

Dr. Mary Wilhelmine Williams of Goucher College faculty visited the Booth and secured many signers to the petition.

Through the courtesy of Ethel M. Adamson a sheet of first issue Susan B. Anthony Stamps, bearing signatures of United States Postal Department Officials is now on display. This has attracted wide attention among stamp collectors, many of whom have made several trips to see this interesting loan exhibit. Equal Rights Seals are likewise a source of great interest.

The booth is deeply indebted to the Literature Committee of the Party for its generous contributions of leaflets and copies of EQUAL RIGHTS MAGAZINE to meet the constant demand for information about the Equal Rights Amendment and the work program of the National Woman's Party.

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## And How Goes It Here?

Mrs. Walter Ferguson in "One Woman's Opinion," appearing in the Washington (D. C.) *News*, says, "If we are to be shoved into another war to save democracy, I think we ought to face the fact that democracy everywhere means one thing for men and another for women."

Mrs. Ferguson speaks of France as a nation that champions human liberty, "yet," she says, "has never given women the vote, and I am told by the eminent biographer, Andre Maurous, that no wife in his land is permitted to have a private bank account."

"In England, too," says Mrs. Ferguson, "where the first fights for equality were made and where brave feminine souls of a past generation marched proudly to prison for a cause in which they believed, fewer privileges are accorded their daughters than those in our country possess. Man is still the chief beneficiary of the democratic ideal in the British Empire."

"And how goes it in the United States of America?" queries the writer. "No so well, my sisters," she says. "Indeed, it is disheartening to observe the consistent efforts being made to take away from certain groups their hard-won privileges.

"Gleanings from press notices quoting sundry remarks of these lawmakers, move us to wonder whether such men actually believe in American principles, since their own words often prove otherwise. They argue—and with what feeble logic—that married women ought to be denied the right to earn. But it seems to me that their unpardonable sin against democracy is their willingness to use the educational system, to flout its fundamental tenets, when they would have us apply one rule of conduct to men and another to women teachers.

"Evidently," concludes Mrs. Ferguson, "a good deal of work is necessary, if we are to save democracy here at home . . . And our tirades against Germans who are willing to forfeit freedom in an economic emergency are bombastic, if we ourselves are ready to do likewise by depriving one group of citizens—wives—of their civil rights during a period of business recession."

# Memorandum On The Status Of Women In Eire

By National University Women Graduates' Association

*EDITOR'S NOTE: The Memorandum on the Status of Women in Eire has been presented to the Committee of Experts on the Status of Women functioning under the International Labor Office, Geneva, Switzerland. The Memorandum is accompanied by a letter from Eileen Wallace, of Belfast, Honorary Secretary of the Irish Federation of University Women.*

WE SUBMIT THAT under the new Constitution of Eire the social and economic status of women has deteriorated; their political rights have remained intact.

Preceding the Free State Constitution we had the Proclamation of 1916 which read: "The Republic guarantees civil and religious liberty, equal rights and equal opportunities to all its citizens."

This is a clear unequivocal charter of liberty for all citizens. Under the Free State Constitution women were again guaranteed equality of status, see Article 3, Free State Constitution:

> "Every person without distinction of sex shall, within the limits of the jurisdiction of the Irish Free State, enjoy the privileges and be subject to the obligations of such citizenship."

Under the New Constitution of Eire the social and economic position of women is seriously undermined in the following Articles:

> ARTICLE 40, *Clause 1.* "All shall as human persons, be held equal before the law. This shall not be held to mean that the State shall not in its enactments have due regard to differences of capacity, physical and moral, and of social function."
>
> ARTICLE 41, *Clause 2, Section 2:* "The State shall endeavor to ensure that mothers shall not be obliged by economic necessity to engage in labors to the neglect of their homes."
>
> ARTICLE 45, *Clause 4, Section 2:* "The State shall endeavor to ensure that the strength and health of workers, men and women and the tender age of children shall not be abused, and that citizens shall not be forced by economic necessity to enter avocations unsuited to their sex, age or strength."

When these clauses were going through the Dail women's organizations demanded their deletion, without effect. Their fears that these clauses would mean sex discrimination have been justified in many ways. Although we had equality of status de jure under the Free State Constitution, de facto such equality was often violated; under the new Constitution we have equality neither de facto nor de jure.

*Civil Service:*

Women generally in the Civil Service have neither the same pay nor the same opportunities of promotion as men. The State, which should be an exemplary employer, discriminates against women, and thus sets an evil example to all other employers of labor in the country.

*Professions:*

In all professional posts under the Government a lesser salary and less good conditions are offered to women than to men. This is a tremendous injustice to professional women and is in marked contrast to their treatment by the Local Authorities.

*Women Workers:*

Section 16 of the Conditions of Employment Act 1934 allows the Ministry for Industry and Commerce to limit the employment of women in any trade or to bar them altogether. This section, though previous to the passing of the new Constitution, has now been put into operation in the Tailoring Trade, with serious results for the women engaged in that trade.

*Women Teachers* (Primary):

By an Act of 1931 women teachers were compelled to retire on marriage, if they entered the service after a certain date. There is now a further menace to their security; they are being compelled to retire at 60 years of age. It is true that it is a statutory rule that women teachers retire at 60 years, but about a quarter of a century ago they were allowed to continue to 65 provided their health and service were satisfactory.

These are a few of the deplorable instances of discrimination against women of our country, to which we respectfully draw your attention.

The Irish Federation of University Women protests vigorously against the aforementioned clauses in the Constitution as unjust and inequitable. They claim that women are human beings with a personal destiny, and demand to be treated as human beings with full rights and responsibilities.

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## New Kansas City Branch

The Swope Park Branch of the National Woman's Party was organized in Kansas City, Mo., on the afternoon of July 15 at a meeting held at the home of Mrs. Genevieve Thomas Wheeler, 384 East 63rd Street, and addressed by Anita Pollitzer, of the Party National Council and Helen Hunt West, editor of EQUAL RIGHTS.

Mrs. Wheeler, who has been a member of the Party since Suffrage days and who a number of years ago made one of the first radio broadcasts in behalf of the Equal Rights Amendment, has accepted the chairmanship of the new group. An intensive campaign for passage of the Amendment is planned.

Mrs. Wheeler, through whose efforts the new Branch was formed, is a cousin of Nina E. Allender, a member of the Woman's Party National Executive Council.

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NATIONAL WOMAN'S PARTY

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BREAKFAST, 25c to 35c

Reservations should be made well in advance, due to the limited number of rooms available.

JANE BOWEN, House Director.

Capitol Hill (144 B St., N. E.) Washington, D. C.

## Mrs. Wiley Receives Honorary Degree

Hanover College, Hanover, Indiana, has conferred on Mrs. Harvey W. Wiley, widow of the late Dr. Wiley of pure food fame, and a vice chairman of the National Woman's Party, an honorary M.A. Degree. The degree was conferred in appreciation for her contribution to the passage last year of the new Federal Pure Food and Drug Act, and for her many other activities including her work in assisting Dr. Wiley, called "the father of the Food and Drug Act" of 1906.

Dr. Wiley was a graduate of Hanover and a member of the College Board for thirty years.

The citation in connection with bestowing this signal honor reads: "Mrs. Wiley was graduated from George Washington University in 1897. From that time until her marriage in 1911 she was connected with the Library of Congress. In her married life she identified herself with the progressive organizations and institutions of Washington. Among other high honors she held that of President of the District of Columbia Federation of Women's Clubs, President of the Women's City Club, Secretary of the Washington Institute of Mental Hygiene. She was for three years Chairman of the National Woman's Party and at the present time is Chairman of Indian Welfare of the General Federation of Women's Clubs. For the five years preceding the passage of the recent Federal Food, Drugs and Cosmetics Act, she gave unsparingly of her time in addressing organizations, speaking at every Congressional hearing on the Act and acting as President of the American Pure Food League, in order to insure proper food legislation, the cause to which her noted husband devoted so many years of his life.

"For these reasons the faculty has recommended and the Board of Trustees authorizes you to confer upon her the degree of Master of Arts."

---

## German Women As Inventors

From Austria comes the following:

Following the example of the United States where Mary Anderson, Chief of the Women's Bureau of the Department of Labor, has published a survey on the activity of women inventors, Lottie Willich, interested in this matter, has examined the patent documents from 1900 to 1935, kept in the Institute of Social Labor in Munich.

This examination was completed by an inquiry, addressed to women owners of patents, patent lawyers and to a great many big firms, in the laboratories of which women are working.

The inquiry resulted in 6,000 names of women inventors and data for an illuminating statement—the statement that not alone the household, but also agriculture, industry and medicine were enriched by female creative genius. Some important inventions of women, were brought about in laboratories and institutes and that is the reason they are not all registered under the names of women. On the other hand, some establishments in the electrical, chemical and radio-technical branches had to give the information that they are employing women, whose success as inventors cannot be effected.

Also, the achievements of German women inventors indicate that the more opportunity they have to become familiar with machinery, chemistry and the like; the more women in daily life not only keep house but drive motorcars, become pilots, etc., the more these talents become productive.

## *In Our Mail Bag*

From Cahavn Ranch, Cave Creek, Arizona, comes the following interesting letter to Caroline L. Babcock, Congressional Committee Campaign Secretary:

Dear Mrs. Babcock:

In the appendix, Congressional Record, February 16, I have read your statement on the life and work of Susan B. Anthony, printed by request of Senator Lynn J. Frazier, of North Dakota. I think the following statements may interest you.

My father, Beverly Waugh Jones, Ed Marsh and Buell Hall were the inspectors of election who allowed Susan B. Anthony, Mrs. "Major" Maurice Leyden and other women to cast the first woman's vote in this country. That was in the early 70's, in the old 8th ward, Rochester, N. Y. The three inspectors were all young men under 25 years of age and were Civil War Veterans. The incident created a furore. The inspectors were arrested, lodged in jail, tried, and released on payment of a fine of $50.00 each. Susan B. Anthony published several books. She autographed and gave my father one. The Anthony family—old Colonel Anthony, Susan B. and sister Mary lived on Madison Street, just around the corner from West Avenue (formerly Buffalo Street) where I was born. Mary Anthony was my school teacher about 58 years ago. Quite often I visited in the Anthony home with Susan B., Mary and the Colonel.

Years after this voting incident it became my pleasure to register and vote Mary Anthony in the same Ward and same Precinct where my father allowed her sister Susan B. to vote many years before. Mary, when asked her age, announced "over thirty," which of course was the truth, though at the time Mary was 70 or over.

Susan B. Anthony and her sister Mary were splendid examples of our American women.

Please believe me.

Cordially yours,

(Signed) THEODORE BEVERLY JONES.


## *Publications*

| | |
|---|---|
| Equal Rights Amendment, Questions and Answers<br>50 for $1.50 | $.10 |
| Glimpse of Laws Shows Need for Equal Rights<br>By BURNITA SHELTON MATTHEWS | .05 |
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| Can Working Women Marry?<br>By HELEN ROBBINS BITTERMANN | .05 |
| Working Women Speak | .05 |
| The Case for Women Jurors | .10 |
| A Comparison of the Political and Civil Rights of Men and Women in the United States<br>By EMMA WOLD | .20 |
| A Few Facts About the National Woman's Party<br>LARGE QUANTITIES AT REDUCED RATES | .01 |
| You Can't Do This to Women<br>By BYRON McG. WEST<br>Dealing with proposal of Wage-Security Plan to "Put Married Women Back in the Home"<br>50 for $1, 500 for $6.00 | .05 |

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NATIONAL WOMAN'S PARTY

144 B Street Northeast Washington, D. C.

# The Personality Of Charlotte Perkins Gilman

By Harriet Howe

SEVENTY-NINE years ago, on July 3, there was born in Hartford, Connecticut, a child whose early life gave no indication of a future career honored on two continents. Her first years were spent not only amid severe deprivations, but under what would now be considered—incredible—repressions of Puritanical rigidity of ideas and conduct. It may well be that these early restrictions were what led her ever active mind to weigh, consider and judge the enormous sufferings of our human kind and to discover by analysis that humanity makes its own suffering through sheer ignorance and lack of thought and reasoning, and that it is perfectly possible to renounce all these mistakes and learn to think clearly, behave intelligently, and live happier, at any moment that we chose to arouse ourselves to undertake our own recovery. Such a discovery as this was enough to fire such an eager soul as hers to high exaltation. So that at sixteen she consecrated her life to helping humanity to recover its blunders, from which purpose she never swerved for one moment during her lifetime.

The result was, naturally, the development of an extraordinary personality, dominated by absolute fearlessness, logical reasoning, profoundly just conclusions and an incredible amount of energy and determination. In discussing her youth she insisted that she was not born with this inexorable energy of purpose; she declared that, up to her sixteenth year she was a careless, "shiftless," indifferent, slouchy individual, but discovered her fault by overhearing adverse criticism which hurt her pride and stung her into rebuilding her character with sheer might and main, disciplining her own mind with greater severity than would have been tolerated from any other source.

This, in view of her life work, is hard to believe, until one examines her portraits, of which there are many in her autobiography, where, even as early as eight years, her face gives a striking impression of dynamic intelligence and extraordinary will power. Added to all this, was an inherited aptitude for teaching and preaching.

To these ends she looked forward—at sixteen—when most girls are absorbed in beau and balls—she looked forward happily to a lifetime of study and social service in the widest sense, with no rewards whatever, in her belief that *life meant giving*, as all nature gives and gives endlessly, and that one should give all and ask nothing.

Her idea of the business of mankind was to forward evolution, we humans being the only creatures capable of doing so with intention and purpose, conscious of our powers.

Paleontologists are delving into the *past* of humanity to learn our origins and find the devious ways by which we reached our present glory of walking on our hind legs and thereby getting indigestion, appendicitis, not to mention fallen arches, but how many are striving to map a path *ahead* and make it a matter of vital personal concern that we shall go *forward*, instead of running in circles and getting nowhere?

Human beings are self-conscious and sex-conscious to a morbid degree, but are almost devoid of race-consciousness, without which all human progress is left to accident or chance, or powers of upstart dictators. We need to have care and thought as to what effect our behavior *now, will* have on *future* lives. This race-consciousness was hers to an absorbing degree.

She saw that there was no hope for future world peace unless there was intelligent limitation of population with due regard to the resources of each country.

She saw that human progress has been retarded for thousands of years by the submergence of the mothers of the race by limiting them to sex and housework. At the time her name first began to be known, the subject of "woman suffrage" was a burning issue supposed to mean freedom for women and therefore "dangerous," but she insisted that political freedom was not enough and that real freedom could only come through complete economic independence. To plodding minds her ideas were meteoric, fantastic.

At her lectures, among the departing audiences were frequently heard whispers, "She is 200 years ahead of her time."

She grieved over the helplessness of people unable to realize their own plight. "Would they but *see?*" she cried aloud, often.

She grieved greatly over the pitiful loss of so much genius to the world, the dead and buried genius in the living bodies of children misunderstood and mismanaged by untrained and incompetent mothers, guided only by their *mis*-guided "mother-love."

The word valiant never had a more deserving object. It belongs to her life—inseparably.

## Memorial To Amelia Earhart

In Miami, Florida, there has been unveiled at the Miami Municipal Airport a plaque to Amelia Earhart at the spot from which she took off June 1, 1937, on her last flight.

Amelia Earhart was a member of the National Woman's Party and an ardent supporter of the Equal Rights Amendment.

The plaque, given by the Dade County Federation of Women's Clubs, bore the inscription:

"In memory of Amelia Earhart, whose courage and invincible spirit made her America's foremost aviatrix, the Dade County Federation of Women's Clubs commemorate this spot, from which she left American soil on her last flight, June 1, 1937."

Participating in the dedication were Gene Vidal, former director of the Bureau of Air Commerce, and David Putnam, son of Miss Earhart's husband, George Palmer Putnam.

The unveiling was a feature of the ceremonies in connection with the All-American Air Manœuvres.

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## Two Great Women

THEY WORKED FOR A BETTER WORLD.
By Allan Seager. The Macmillan Co. New York. $.60.

FRANCES WILLARD OF EVANSTON.
By Lydia Jones Trowbridge. Willett, Clark and Co. Chicago. $2.

*Reviewed by* ALMA LUTZ

The readers of EQUAL RIGHTS are always eager to find books about women which they can recommend to their daughters and their sons, to schools and to speakers who want to find easily and quickly important facts about great women. Two such books are THEY WORKED FOR A BETTER WORLD and FRANCES WILLARD OF EVANSTON.

THEY WORKED FOR A BETTER WORLD is one of the first volumes of the People's Library, a very readable series which aims to encourage the reading of serious books. The demand of public library patrons for non-fiction books that are easy to read and simply and entertainingly written led the American Association for Adult Education to undertake issuing this series.

THEY WORKED FOR A BETTER WORLD is the story of five idealists, four men, Roger Williams, Thomas Paine, Ralph Waldo Emerson, and Edward Bellamy, and one woman, Elizabeth Cady Stanton.

To those who want to get a few facts about this great woman in the shortest possible time, the twenty pages in this little book will do very well. Mrs. Stanton's story is interestingly told against the background of her times, with a few inaccuracies, in a little too facetious a tone for those who appreciate the importance of the woman's rights movement. However, those who enjoy the turn of phrase made popular by LIFE and TIME will find the style pleasing.

Allan Seager says of Elizabeth Cady Stanton, "If the reader is a female, she owes to Mrs. Stanton, more than anyone else, her right to vote, and the freedom now taken for granted in which she can own property, get a divorce, or embark unhindered by public opinion on a career. And further, Mrs. Stanton helped to form and spread the various subtle influences that make Man now regard Woman as a rational being, capable of consecutive thought and purposeful action."

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Mrs. Trowbridge's short, readable biography of Frances Willard is an important contribution to the celebration of the Frances Willard Centenary. Mrs. Trowbridge, the daughter of Frances Willard's well-loved "Professor," President William Jones of Northwestern Female College at Evanston, knew Frances Willard well and tells her story with all the intimacy, admiration, and appreciation of a life-long friend.

While Frances Willard is best known for her temperance crusade and her remarkable organizing ability which built up the powerful W. C. T. U., she also exerted an important influence in the campaign for woman suffrage, advocated labor reforms, vocational training for girls, and equal pay for equal work. She was the first woman college president.

While still a tomboy on a frontier farm in Wisconsin, she wrote in her diary that she would like to be either a saint or a politician. To some of her colleagues, she was a saint, and she was also a politician, leading her temperance organization along the road which made it a political power to be reckoned with.

Even those who may not be interested in the temperance movement cannot fail to be interested in her vivid personality, her consecration to her ideals, and her accomplishments as a woman in a pre-career era.

## Hear Broadcast Of Geneva Ceremony

A group of National Woman's Party members and friends gathered at a luncheon at 1 P. M. Friday, August 18, at Alva Belmont House to celebrate the dedication of the World Woman's Party Headquarters in Geneva, Switzerland, and to listen to an international broadcast over the Blue Network of the National Broadcasting Company of a part of the Geneva ceremonies.

The World Woman's Party was organized at Alva Belmont House, headquarters of the National Woman's Party, November 20, 1938. Those speaking in Geneva included Emmeline Pethick-Lawrence, noted British feminist; Madame Wellington Koo, wife of the Chinese ambassador to France, Lide Augusta Heymann, veteran German suffrage leader, and Rosella Charrere, Italian leader.

Mrs. Pethick-Lawrence, who introduced the speakers, said, in part: "We have here a lighted torch which is symbolic of the flame of life which it is the special function of women to cherish and sustain."

Speaking from the viewpoint of "mother and wife," Madame Charrere congratulated the World Woman's Party on its work.

Madame Koo said, "As a woman I want to bring warmest greetings to the World Woman's Party." She stated that, "Women in China already have legal equality with men." Continuing she said, "We must shoulder our new responsibilities and face the menace of unspeakable suffering of war and do our utmost to prevent it." She wished the Party success in its work in "furthering true equality between men and women and establishing a basis of true peace and hapiness."

In the opening of the headquarters Fraulein Heymann expressed the belief that the women who were there are "looking out in a better hope." She said, "Our watchword is equality for men and women and peace for all the peoples of the world."

The musical numbers included an aria from Tosca sung by Grace Moore, American grand opera star, and numbers by the Royal Welch Ladies' Choir, conducted by Madame Clara Novello Davies, noted British musician. The choir sang Dame Edyth Smyth's March of the Women and Keep the Peace Fires Burning, based on the war-time song Keep the Home Fires Burning, by Ivor Novello, Madame Davies' actor and playwright son.

The World Woman's Party represents women of more than thirty nations banded together for the first time in history for the purpose of coordinating the program of women in all countries with the view of securing international equality.

Rebekah S. Greathouse, who presided at the Washington luncheon, spoke briefly, paying tribute to Alice Paul, her achievement in the national field and her determination to coordinate the gains of women of many nations in a movement dedicated to the belief that men and women, equally, are entitled to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness under conditions hampering neither to the advantage of the other.

Other Washington speakers were Dr. Edith Ringwhal, Swiss feminist; Laura Berrien, Treasurer of the National Woman's Party, and Mrs. Harvey W. Wiley, a vice-chairman of the Party.

After the luncheon the guests were invited to the office of the National Chairman, where the roll of guests was signed on a desk once owned by Susan B. Anthony. This roll will be sent to Alice Paul as a greeting from Washington.

# A Feminist Thinks It Over

By ALMA LUTZ

## WOMEN AND THE WORLD CRISIS

WORLD conditions are a challenge to women. I believe that if women had taken a really important part in the government of nations and in international affairs, we would not today be in the midst of a conflict which may well lead to another World War.

While I have no patience with the idea that women are nobler, finer, and more spiritual than men and that they will purify government, I do believe that women have a definite contribution to make which has too long been overlooked.

Women are not fighters nor destroyers. They have always been protectors of the race. Through all the ages, when men have gone to war, women have kept civilization going. They have watched over the home, conserved resources, bound up wounds and helped rebuild war-racked communities. No normal mother raises her boy to be a soldier except in actual defense of his country.

I believe we can truly say that when governments and international conferences are represented by men and women on approximately a fifty-fifty basis, the tendency will be away from war toward the goal of building a better life for all races and classes.

At the end of the World War of 1914-18, women in many countries were enfranchised. Before the war they had the vote in New Zealand, Australia, Finland, Norway and Sweden. From 1915 to 1919 women were enfranchised in Denmark, Russia, most of Canada, Great Britain, Germany, Austria, Hungary, Czecho-Slovakia, Holland and South Africa, and then finally in the United States in 1920.

From then on women had direct influence at the polls. In many warring nations, depleted of men, they could have held the balance of power and taken their places in large numbers in parliaments and at international conferences.

But women held back. Possibly they were so used to being directed that they continued their old roles of doing the work for the glory of some man. Possibly they had been so occupied with their long struggle for political freedom that they failed to make the most of their opportunity when it finally arrived. No women took part in the Peace Conferences after the last war. No determined organization of women demanded from those Conferences an extension of the political rights of women in the countries that lagged behind.

Nor did women in adequate numbers shoulder the responsibility of their new freedom by seeking government offices or voting for women who did. The psychological handicap still remained. Most women felt men were better qualified to steer the Ship of State.

The more conservative groups of suffragists continued their well-oiled machinery of organization and stepped from their academic way of working for woman suffrage to an academic method of studying world affairs. The more virile groups, in my opinion, only in a measure fulfilled the promise of the ability they showed in their suffrage campaigns.

The result is that the world is on the threshold of another world war and that an ideology, which does not respect women except as mothers of soldiers, is attempting to sweep the world.

What the outcome will be none of us know. But my plea is that women begin preparing now for another peace conference in which they will play an important part.

A world-wide organization of women, the World Woman's Party, was formed late in 1937, as if in anticipation of this world crisis. It will be ready to unite and direct women in making claims at the right time for political, civil, and economic freedom. May its leaders have the vision to make it a real power for good, for women and the world.

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## The Spirit Of '213'

William Rufus Scott, of California, fears a renewal of the "Spirit of Section 213." He says:

"It's proposed that married women give up their jobs to men to cure the depression, particularly to young men. The papers say some firms are firing or not hiring married women.

"Of course, if married women are made 'the goats' of this man-made depression, the next move would be to oust single women from business and industry.

"I'm against it. If we men can't find a better remedy for the depression than that we are bankrupt of brains."—*The Government Standard* (Official organ of A. F. of L. Government Employees).

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## Northern California Branch

Fifty enthusiastic women met recently in the Codornices Club in Berkeley, California, and organized the Northern California Branch of the National Woman's Party.

Mrs. William Kent of Kentville, Marin County, for years a member of the Party National Council, and Mrs. Amy C. Ransome, of Pasadena, third vice-chairman of the Party, were guests of honor at the meeting, which was presided over by Mrs. Emily Rayburn Kneiss.

Both Mrs. Kent and Mrs. Ransome explained the objectives of the Party and related interesting incidents in the history of the woman movement in the United States. Mrs. Bell Shaw and Mrs. Eleanor Weldon were in charge of a musical program which closed with the singing of the Star Spangled Banner.

Officers elected were: Mrs. Emily Rayburn Kneiss, chairman; Mrs. Zella Emery, vice-chairman; Mrs. C. C. Culp, secretary; Mrs. Lila K. Olson, treasurer.

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## Married Women May Hold Jobs

For the first time since 1883 married women may hold jobs as teachers in Birmingham, Alabama, public schools for the year 1939-40, according to an announcement in the Birmingham Teachers Association Bulletin.

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